

Message Text

SECRET

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI POSITION ON PALESTINE ISSUE

1. WHEN I SAW EVRON NOVEMBER 12, HE SAID HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY RABIN, IN HIS CAPACITY AS ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER, TO STATE THE FOLLOWING:
2. THE ISRAELIS HAVE NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS TO THE PRESS AT JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER 3 CONCERNING THE PALESTINE ISSUE AND PARTICULARLY HIS STATEMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE ISRAELI POSITION CONCERNING THE PLO. THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, WOULD POINT OUT THAT THE POSITION SPELLED OUT BY PRESIDENT FORD IS THE UNITED STATES POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE PLO AND NOT THE ISRAELI POSITION. WHAT PRESIDENT FORD SAID IS ESSENTIALLY A PARAPHRASE OF THE UNITED STATES POSITION ON THE PLO AS SET FORTH IN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 1 SIGNED IN JERUSALEM BY SECRETARY KISSINGER.
3. I TOLD EVRON THAT I WOULD RELAY THIS VIEW TO WASHINGTON BUT MEANWHILE I WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED AS TO PRECISELY WHAT THE ISRAELI POSITION IS CONCERNING THE PLO SINCE I FELT IT WAS FAIR TO ASSUME FROM EVRON'S DEMARCHE THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE ISRAELI POSITIONS. EVRON SAID THAT HE HAD ANTICIPATED BY QUESTION AND HAD THEREFORE DONE THE NECESSARY RESEARCH BEFORE MY ARRIVAL. HE THEN SPELLED OUT THE ISRAELI POSITION IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS:
QUOTE: THE SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM CAN BE

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FOUND ONLY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH JORDAN. IT IS

WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK THAT AN EXPRESSION CAN BE FOUND FOR THE
PALESTINIAN AND JORDANIAN IDENTITY.
ISRAELI BELIEVES THAT BETWEEN THE DESERT TO THE EAST AND
THE MEDITERRANEAN TO THE WEST THERE IS ROOM FOR TWO STATES ONLY.
ISRAEL WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH THE PLO, WHOSE OBJECTIVE
IS TERROR AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.
THE QUESTION WHETHER WE SHALL TALK TO THE PLO IF
THEY RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AND RENOUNCE TERRORISM IS A HYPOTHETICAL ONE.
THERE IS NO SIGN OF THE PLO EVER CHANGING ITS POSITION ON THIS ISSUE,
BECAUSE BY DOING SO IT WILL CEASE TO BE PLO.
A SOLUTION CAN BE REACHED ONLY IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN
STATES. WE SHALL NOT EXPROPRIATE KING HUSSEIN'S AUTHORITY IN
SAMARIA AND JUDEA (THE WEST BANK) AND HAND IT OVER TO ANOTHER BODY.
SO FAR WE HAVE NOT BEEN APPROACHED BY ANY NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ARAB BODY, NOT EVEN ONE WHICH IS NOT IDENTIFIED WITH TERRORISM. IF A
NON-TERRORIST BODY APPROACHES US, WE SHALL TALK TO THEM. BUT
NEGOTIATIONS, INVOLVING AGREEMENTS AND BOUNDARIES, WILL BE CONDUCTED
ONLY WITH STATES. UNQUOTE.
TOON

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